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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/755,747  
Filing Date: January 5, 2001  
Applicants: Brookes et al.  
Title: DETECTION OF NUCLEIC ACID POLYMORPHISM

Group Art Unit: 1637  
Examiner: Fredman, J.  
Atty. Docket: 40225.000

**RESPONSE / PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**  
**(37 CFR §1.121/MPEP 714.01(e))**

**Box: RCE**  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

In Response to the Final Office Action of 11 September 2002 and the subsequent Advisory Action of 31 December 2002, reconsideration of the objections and/or rejections and further examination of the application are requested in view of the following Preliminary Amendment, which accompanies a concurrently-filed Request for Continued Examination.

**Petition for Extension of Time to Respond**

The period for response is hereby extended TWO month(s) to expire February 11, 2003 by this Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time. A charge for the appropriate petition fee of \$205 (37 CFR §1.17) is authorized by the form USPTO-2038 accompanying this Response.

**AMENDMENTS**

Please amend the application as follows:

**In the Claims** (37 CFR §1.121(c)):

- Please cancel claims 6, 19, 32, and 45 without prejudice to further prosecution of these claims in one or more continuing applications.

I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

2-10-03

Date of Deposit

2-10-03

Date of Signature

Maria Layton  
Signature